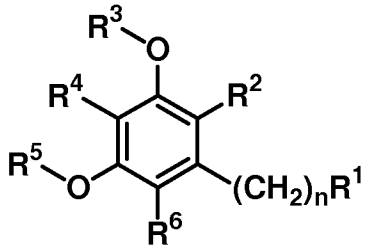
a.) Amendment to the Claims

1. (Previously presented and withdrawn) A method of inhibiting a heat shock protein 90 family protein, which comprises administering to a patient, in need thereof, an effective amount of a benzene derivative represented by formula (I):



(I)

{wherein

n represents an integer of 0 to 10;

R^1 represents a hydrogen atom, a hydroxy, a cyano, a carboxy, a nitro, a halogen, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkenyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkynyl, a substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxycarbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aroyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoyl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl, a substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted arylsulfonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group, $-CONR^7R^8$ (wherein R^7 and R^8, which may be the same or different, each represent a hydrogen atom, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group, a

substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-alkyl or a substituted or unsubstituted aroyl, or R^7 and R^8 form a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group together with the adjacent nitrogen atom), $-NR^9R^{10}$ [wherein R^9 and R^{10}, which may be the same or different, each represent a hydrogen atom, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkylsulfonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group, a substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aroyl, or $-CONR^{11}R^{12}$ (wherein R^{11} and R^{12} have the same meanings as the above R^7 and R^8, respectively), or R^9 and R^{10} form a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group together with the adjacent nitrogen atom], or $-OR^{13}$ (wherein R^{13} represents a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkenyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group, a substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl or a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-alkyl);

R^2 represents a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkenyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl or a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group (but excepting a substituted or unsubstituted pyrazolyl);

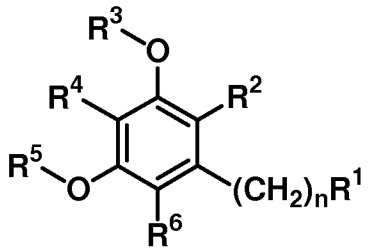
R^3 and R^5, which may be the same or different, each represent a hydrogen atom, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkenyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoyl, a substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkylsulfonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted arylsulfonyl, a carbamoyl, a sulfamoyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower

alkylaminocarbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted di-lower alkylaminocarbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxycarbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-carbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl or a substituted or unsubstituted aroyl; and

R^4 and R^6, which may be the same or different, each represent a hydrogen atom, a hydroxy, a halogen, a cyano, a nitro, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkenyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkynyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy, a substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, an amino, a lower alkylamino, a di-lower alkylamino, a carboxy, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxycarbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aryloxy, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group (but excepting a substituted or unsubstituted pyrazolyl), a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl, or a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-alkyl}, or

a prodrug thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. (Previously Presented and withdrawn) A method of inhibiting a heat shock protein 90 family protein, which comprises administering to a patient, in need thereof, an effective amount of a benzene derivative represented by general formula (I):



(I)

(wherein

n represents an integer of 0 to 10;

R^1 represents a hydrogen atom, a hydroxy, a cyano, a carboxy, a nitro, a halogen, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkenyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkynyl, a substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxycarbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aroyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoyl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl, a substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted arylsulfonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group, $-CONR^7R^8$ (wherein R^7 and R^8, which may be the same or different, each represent a hydrogen atom, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group, a substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-alkyl or a substituted or unsubstituted aroyl, or R^7 and R^8 form a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group together with the adjacent nitrogen atom), $-NR^9R^{10}$ [wherein R^9 and R^{10}, which may be the same or different, each represent a hydrogen atom, a substituted or

unsubstituted lower alkylsulfonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group, a substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aroyl, or -$CONR^{11}R^{12}$ (wherein R^{11} and R^{12} have the same meanings as the above R^7 and R^8, respectively), or R^9 and R^{10} form a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group together with the adjacent nitrogen atom], or -OR^{13} (wherein R^{13} represents a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkenyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group, a substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl or a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-alkyl);

R^2 represents a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkenyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl or a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group (but excepting a substituted or unsubstituted pyrazolyl);

R^3 and R^5, which may be the same or different, each represent a hydrogen atom, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkenyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoyl, a substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkylsulfonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted arylsulfonyl, a carbamoyl, a sulfamoyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkylaminocarbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted di-lower alkylaminocarbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxycarbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-carbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl or a substituted or unsubstituted aroyl; and

R^4 and R^6, which may be the same or different, each represent a hydrogen atom, a hydroxy, a halogen, a cyano, a nitro, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkenyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkynyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy, a substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, an amino, a lower alkylamino, a di-lower alkylamino, a carboxy, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxycarbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aryloxy, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group (but excepting a substituted or unsubstituted pyrazolyl), a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl, or a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-alkyl}) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

3. (Previously Presented and withdrawn) The method according to claim 2, wherein R^1 is a hydrogen atom, a hydroxy, a cyano, a carboxy, a nitro, a halogen, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkynyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy, a substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxycarbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoyloxy, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl, a substituted or unsubstituted arylsulfonyl, $-CONR^7R^8$ or $-NR^9R^{10}$.

4. (Previously Presented and withdrawn) The method according to claim 2, wherein R^1 is a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkynyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy, a substituted or

unsubstituted cycloalkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxycarbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl, $-CONR^7R^8$, or $-NR^9R^{10}$.

5. (Previously Presented and withdrawn) The method according to claim 3 or 4, wherein R^2 is a substituted or unsubstituted aryl, or a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic heterocyclic group.

6. (Previously Presented and withdrawn) The method according to claim 3 or 4, wherein R^2 is a substituted or unsubstituted aryl.

7. (Previously Presented and withdrawn) The method according to claim 3 or 4, wherein R^2 is a substituted or unsubstituted phenyl.

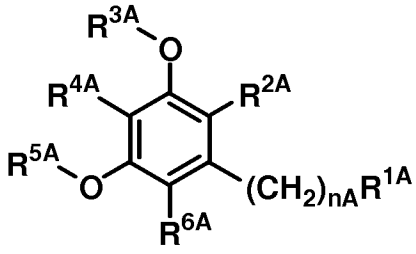
8. (Previously Presented and withdrawn) The method according to claim 3 or 4, wherein R^2 is a substituted or unsubstituted furyl.

9. (Previously Presented and withdrawn) The method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein R^4 is a hydrogen atom, a hydroxy, or a halogen.

10. (Previously Presented and withdrawn) The method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein R^3 and R^5, which may be the same or different, each are a hydrogen atom, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkenyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aroyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkylaminocarbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted di-lower alkylaminocarbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxycarbonyl, or a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-carbonyl.

11. (Currently Amended and withdrawn) The method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein R^3, R^4 and R^5 are hydrogen atoms.

12. (Previously Presented) A benzene derivative represented by general formula (IA):



(IA)

[wherein R^{2A} represents a substituted or unsubstituted phenyl;

R^{3A} and R^{5A}, which may be the same or different, each represent a hydrogen atom, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkenyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoyl, a carbamoyl, a sulfamoyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkylsulfonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkylaminocarbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted di-lower alkylaminocarbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxycarbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-carbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl, or a substituted or unsubstituted aroyl;

R^{4A} represents a hydrogen atom, a hydroxy, or a halogen;

nA represents an integer of 0 to 5;

provided that;

(1) when nA is 0,

then R^{1A} is a hydrogen atom, a methyl, a hydroxy, a methoxy, a carboxyl, a methoxycarbonyl, a carbamoyl, $-CONHCH_3$, $-CON(CH_3)_2$, $-CONHCH_2Ph$ (wherein Ph represents a phenyl), $-CH(OCH_3)Ph$ (wherein Ph has the same meaning as that defined above), a propionyl, a benzoyl, a dioxolanyl, a substituted or unsubstituted vinyl, or a substituted or unsubstituted prop-1-en-1-yl;

and when R^{1A} is a hydrogen atom,

then R^{6A} is a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl;

when R^{1A} is a methyl, a hydroxy, a methoxy, a carboxyl, a methoxycarbonyl, a carbamoyl, -$CONHCH_3$, -$CON(CH_3)_2$, -$CONHCH_2Ph$ (wherein Ph has the same meaning as that defined above), a propionyl, a benzoyl, a dioxolanyl, a substituted or unsubstituted vinyl, or a substituted or unsubstituted prop-1-en-1-yl,

then R^{6A} is a halogen;

(2) when nA is an integer of 1 to 5,

then R^{1A} is a hydroxy, a cyano, a carboxyl, a halogen, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkenyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkynyl, a substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxycarbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl, a substituted or unsubstituted aroyl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted arylsulfonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group, -$CONR^7R^8$ (wherein R^7 and R^8, which may be the same or different, each represent a hydrogen atom, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group, a substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-alkyl or a substituted or unsubstituted aroyl, or R^7 and R^8 form a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group together with the adjacent nitrogen atom), -NR^9R^{10} (wherein R^9 and R^{10}, which may be the same or different, each represent a hydrogen atom, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkylsulfonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, a substituted or

unsubstituted lower alkanoyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group, a substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aroyl), or $-OR^{13}$ (wherein R^{13} represents a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkenyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group, a substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl or a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-alkyl), R^{6A} is a hydrogen atom, a halogen, a cyano, a nitro, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkenyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkynyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy, a substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoyl, an amino, a lower alkylamino, a di-lower alkylamino, a carboxy, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxycarbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aryloxy, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group (but excepting a substituted or unsubstituted pyrazolyl), a substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl, or a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-alkyl;

and provided that;

(i) when R^{3A} and R^{5A} are isopropyl,

then R^{6A} is not a hydrogen atom;

(ii) when R^{3A} and R^{5A} are methyl,

then R^{6A} is not a group selected from a hydrogen atom, a bromo, an ethyl, a 1-hydroxyethyl, a 1-(dimethylamino)ethyl, a vinyl and a carboxy;

(iii) when R^{4A} and R^{6A} are hydrogen atoms, and when R^{3A} and R^{5A} are the same and are tert-butyl or benzyl,

then $-(CH_2)_{nA}R^{1A}$ is not a group selected from a hydroxymethyl and a 2-chloroallyl;

(iv) when R^{4A} and R^{6A} are hydrogen atoms, and when R^{3A} is a benzyl or an acetyl and R^{5A} is a methyl,

or when R^{3A}, R^{4A} and R^{6A} are hydrogen atoms, and when R^{5A} is a methyl,

then $-(CH_2)_{nA}R^{1A}$ is not a group selected from a 2-(acetylamino)propyl and a 2-(substituted lower alkanoylamino)propyl;

(v) when R^{3A}, R^{4A} and R^{5A} are hydrogen atoms, and when R^{6A} is a carboxy, or when R^{4A}, R^{5A} and R^{6A} are hydrogen atoms, and when R^{3A} is a methyl,

then $-(CH_2)_{nA}R^{1A}$ is not an n-pentyl;

(vi) when R^{3A} and R^{4A} are hydrogen atoms, R^{5A} is a methyl, and R^{6A} is an ethyl,

then $-(CH_2)_{nA}R^{1A}$ is not an n-propyl;

(vii) when R^{3A} is a methyl, R^{4A} and R^{6A} are hydrogen atoms, and R^{5A} is a 4-methoxybenzyl,

then $-(CH_2)_{nA}R^{1A}$ is not a group selected from $-(CH_2)_3CH=CH_2$ and $-(CH_2)_5CH=CH_2$;

(viii) when R^{3A}, R^{4A}, R^{5A} and R^{6A} are hydrogen atoms, and when -$(CH_2)_{nA}R^{1A}$ is

(a) an n-pentyl,

then R^{2A} is not a 2,4-dihydroxy-6-pentylphenyl,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

13. (Previously Presented) The benzene derivative according to claim 12, wherein R^{2A} is a substituted phenyl, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

14. (Previously Presented) The benzene derivative according to claim 12, wherein R^{2A} is unsubstituted phenyl, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

15. (Original) The benzene derivative according to any of claims 12 to 14, wherein R^{3A} and R^{5A}, which may be the same or different, each are a hydrogen atom, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aroyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkenyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkylaminocarbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted di-lower alkylaminocarbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxycarbonyl, or a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-carbonyl, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

16. (Original) The benzene derivative according to any of claims 12 to 14, wherein R^{3A}, R^{4A} and R^{5A} are hydrogen atoms, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

17. (Original) The benzene derivative according to any of claims 12 to 14, wherein nA is an integer of 1 to 5, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

18. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising, as an active ingredient, the benzene derivative according to any of claims 12 to 14 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claims 19-26 (Cancelled).

27. (Withdrawn and Previously Presented) A method of inhibiting a heat shock protein 90 family protein, which comprises administering said benzene derivative according to any one of claims 1-4 or 12-14.

Claims 28-41 (Cancelled).

42. (Previously Presented) A method of inhibiting a heat shock protein 90 family protein, which comprises administering said prodrug according to claim 1.

43. (Previously Presented) A method of inhibiting a heat shock protein 90 family protein, which comprises administering said pharmaceutically acceptable salt according to any one of claims 1-4 or 12-14.